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1993/08/07

SECRET

DOC_NUMBER: 93BEIJIN28146

CHANNEL: n/a

(E7)

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PAGE 01
ACTION PM-02

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EXCISE

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B5
B1(b)(2)

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AMAD-01	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	CIP-10
	COME-00	CTME-00	CFE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00
	EAP-01	EB-01	FMC-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-03
	ADS-00	NEA-01	NRRC-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-09	OMB-01
	PA-01	PRS-01	P-01	RPCS-01	SDEL-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00	TST-00	T-00	USIE-00	CORE-00
	SSD-01	/070W					

O 071113Z AUG 93 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
☒ RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☒ EXCISE ☒ DECLASSIFY EO Citations B1 B5
☒ DENY IN PART

FOIA Exemptions _____ ☐ CLASSIFY as () S or () C Sec. _____
EA Exemptions _____ ☐ DOWNGRADE IS to () S or () C

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 03 BEIJING 028146

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PARM, ETTC, CBW, EWWT, PHSA, IR, CH
SUBJECT: CHINA "STRONGLY PROTESTS" U.S. ACTIONS RE THE
"YIN HE"

REFS: A. BEIJING 28108; B. BEIJING 27998; C. ABU
DHABI 6339; D. STATE 240305; E. EINHORN-ALOISI TELCON
8/7/93

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1.. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: LATE ON AUGUST 7, CHINESE MFA ASSISTANT
MINISTER QIN HUASUN LODGED ON BEHALF OF HIS GOVERNMENT
A "STRONG PROTEST" REGARDING U.S. ACTIONS IN THE "YIN
HE" CASE, REITERATING THAT CHINA EXPECTS THE U.S. TO
FIND A PORT OF CALL ON THE SHIP'S ORIGINAL ITINERARY
WHICH WILL ACCEPT THE "YIN HE." AFTER BOTH SIDES
REVIEWED THE RECORD FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS,

END SUMMARY.

3. POLMINCOUNS CONVEYED REF F POINTS TO CHINESE MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHA ZUKANG IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT (SEPTTEL). SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE CHINESE REQUESTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR MEET AT 2 P.M. WITH ASSISTANT MINISTER QIN HUASUN. AT THE MEETING, QIN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DEPARTMENT DISARMAMENT DIVISION DEPUTY CHIEF ZHANG WEIDONG, NORTH AMERICAN AND OCEANIAN AFFAIRS USA DIVISION DEPUTY CHIEF CHEN MINGMING, AN INTERPRETER, AND ANOTHER MFA OFFICER. THE AMBASSADOR WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE POLMINCOUNS (NOTETAKER) AND THE EMBASSY INTERPRETER.

CHINESE STRONG PROTEST REGARDING THE "YIN HE" AFFAIR
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4. AFTER THANKING THE AMBASSADOR FOR AGREEING TO THE MEETING ON ONE HOUR NOTICE, QIN RECOUNTED SOME OF THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE "YIN HE" CASE.

[REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6728
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 BEIJING 028146

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

AMBASSADOR'S REPLY TO QIN'S PROTEST

8. NOTING THAT THE U.S. AND CHINA ARE ORIGINAL SIGNATORIES OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, AND BOTH COUNTRIES ARE REQUIRED TO CONTROL THE TRADE IN CERTAIN TYPES OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, THE AMBASSADOR STATED THAT THE U.S. HAD ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO CHINA'S SIGNING OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION. SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, THE U.S. RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT SUGGESTED CHEMICALS LISTED ON AN ANNEX TO CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION WERE ON BOARD A CHINESE SHIP AND WERE BOUND FOR THE IRANIAN PORT OF BANDAR-E-ABBAS. WE IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT THIS INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IN THE EXPECTATION THAT IT WOULD INVESTIGATE THE MATTER AND, IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO STOP THE CHEMICALS FROM BEING DELIVERED.

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9. CHINA, IN FACT, INVESTIGATED THE MATTER AND, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO IT, WAS UNABLE

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TO ESTABLISH THAT DANGEROUS CHEMICALS WERE ON BOARD
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THE SHIP. NEVERTHELESS, CHINA AGREED TO A JOINT
INVESTIGATION WHEN THE SHIP ARRIVED IN DUBAI. THE
U.S. WELCOMED THIS ACTION BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.
IN THE MEANTIME, THE U.S. HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE
STATES WHERE THE SHIP WAS DUE TO ARRIVE. THE U.S.
INTENTION WAS NOT TO PREVENT THE SHIP FROM ARRIVING AT
THESE PORTS. MOREOVER, THE U.S. ALWAYS ACTED ON THE
ASSUMPTION THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WAS COOPERATING
AND THAT, IF ILLEGAL CHEMICALS WERE BEING SHIPPED, IT
WAS NOT WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

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10. SOME OF THE STATES (WE INFORMED), THE UAE IN
PARTICULAR, DID NOT WANT A SHIP CARRYING DANGEROUS
CHEMICALS TO STOP AT THEIR PORT. THE U.S. DID NOT
ANTICIPATE THIS (RE)ACTION; WE DID NOT REQUEST IT; AND
THE U.S. HAS BEEN ACTING VIGOROUSLY IN RECENT DAYS TO
GAIN ACCESS FOR THE SHIP TO THE ORIGINAL DESIGNATED
PORTS OF CALL. WE ARE WILLING TO CONTINUE THESE
EFFORTS. GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE U.S. HAS ACTED
RESPONSIBLY THROUGHOUT, IN A WAY THAT ANY RESPONSIBL
E

GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT IF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS WERE BEING
SHIPPED. IF AN INVESTIGATION ESTABLISHED, IN FACT,
THAT U.S. ALLEGATIONS WERE FALSE, THE U.S. WOULD
REGARD THIS (OUTCOME) SERIOUSLY. HOWEVER, SHOULD
INVESTIGATION OF THE CARGO PROVE THAT U.S. INFORMATION
IS ACCURATE, THIS WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE
CHINESE GOVERNMENT. THEREFORE, AT THIS POINT IN TIME,
THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE
CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE THE CARGO.

11. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE POLMINCOUNS HAD
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JUST BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (SEPTTEL)
REGARDING CONTACTS WE ARE MAKING WITH SEVERAL STATES
IN THE REGION. THESE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE. WE WILL
NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE SHIP, INCLUDING
ITS PASSAGE TO SCHEDULED PORTS OF CALL. WE RECOGNIZE
HAT THERE HAVE BEEN COMPLICATIONS OWING TO OUR
EFFORTS TO PREVENT DANGEROUS CHEMICALS FROM BEING
SHIPPED TO IRAN, BUT THIS WAS NOT A REASON FOR THE
U.S. TO HAVE REFRAINED FROM EFFORTS (TO STOP SHIPMENT
OF SUCH CHEMICALS TO IRAN).

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12. THE AMBASSADOR RECOMMENDED THAT, AFTER THIS AFFAIR IS RESOLVED, IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. AND CHINA TO INVESTIGATE THIS INCIDENT TO SEE WHAT USEFUL LESSONS WE MAY DRAW FOR THE FUTURE, SO THAT WE CAN IMPROVE OUR COOPERATION IN THIS AREA. IN THE MEANTIME, HE PROMISED TO REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO WASHINGTON THE REPRESENTATION BY ASSISTANT MINISTER QIN.

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13. IN REPLY, QIN FURTHER REITERATED SEVERAL OF THE POINTS THAT HE HAD MADE EARLIER, ADDING A CATEGORICAL ASSERTION THAT THERE ARE NO CHEMICAL WEAPONS PRECURSORS ON BOARD THE "YIN HE." IN CLOSING, HE REITERATED THAT HE WAS MAKING A "STRONG PROTEST" OVER U.S. ACTIONS AND

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"YIN HE"

THAT CHINA EXPECTED THE U.S. TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE BY
GAINING ADMISSION FOR THE "YIN HE" TO A RELEVANT PORT
OF CALL.

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CLOSING
THE MEETING, THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT IT MIGHT NOT
SURPRISE CHINA TO LEARN THAT SOME LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
HAVE MADE CONTRADICTIONARY STATEMENTS TO CHINA AND THE
U.S. ROY

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